



# Punjab Government Gazette

## EXTRAORDINARY

*Published by Authority*

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CHANDIGARH, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 1, 2022

(JYAISTHA 11, 1944 SAKA)

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**PART IV**  
**HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA AT CHANDIGARH**  
**NOTIFICATION**

The 18th May, 2022

**No. 120 Rules Cell/II.D4.**—In exercise of the powers conferred by Section 21 of the Family Courts Act, 1984 (Central Act 66 of 1984), and all enabling provisions in that behalf, the Punjab and Haryana High Court hereby makes the following amendment in the 'Punjab and Haryana High Court Family Courts Rules, 2005':—

**(1) After Rule 14 and before the Rule 15 of Punjab and Haryana High Court Family Courts Rules, 2005, the following Rule 14-A is inserted:—**

**"14-A. Appearance of parties before Counsellor:—** On the stipulated time, date and place as the Court may direct, the parties shall be bound to appear before the Counsellor so appointed by the Court. In case parties or either of the parties fail to appear before the Counsellor on the stipulated time, date and place, the Counsellor may fix another date which shall be communicated to the absentee party or parties through registered post or any other possible mode including telephonic communication. In case of default by parties or either of the parties on the adjourned date, the Counsellor shall submit a report to the Court and on receipt of such report, the Court may proceed with the matter without prejudice to the powers of Court to take action against the defaulting party or parties."

**(II) The existing Rule 15 of Punjab and Haryana High Court Family Courts Rules, 2005 is substituted as under:—**

**"15. Duties of the Counsellor:—**

- (1) On appearance of the parties, the Counsellor shall advise and assist the parties in conciliating the subject matter of dispute.
- (2) In discharge of the duties, the Counsellor may in accordance with the direction or with the prior approval of the Court—
  - a) visit the place of residence and interact with the relatives, friends or acquaintances, of either of the parties;
  - b) seek such information from the employer(s) of either of the parties as may be deemed fit;
  - c) take assistance of an organization, institution or agency as may be deemed fit.
- (3) On being required by the Court, the Counsellor may also assist the minor children of the parties.

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- (4) The Counselling process shall be completed by the Counsellor within a period of thirty days from the first date fixed by the Court for counselling process. However, on request of the Counsellor or parties the Court may extend said period, but not exceeding fifteen days.
- (5) On completion of the counseling process, the Counsellor shall submit a report to the Court which may inter-alia contain the following points:-
- a) Living environment of the parties concerned.
  - b) Income and standard of living of the parties.
  - c) Educational status of the parties and their children.
  - d) Status of parties in society.
  - e) Counsellor's findings with material in support thereof, if any."

BY ORDER OF HON'BLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE AND JUDGES.

**(ARUN KUMAR AGGARWAL)**

Registrar (Rules)  
for Registrar General